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ANTI-YASUKUNI NATIONALIZATION COMMITTEE BUSY

Probing the stand of candidates on the nationalization of the Yasukuni Shrine, the NCC Special Committee recently sent questionnaires to 500 candidates for seats in the Lower House in the Dec. 10 elections. As of Nov. 21, 81 answers had been received out of 500 questionnaires mailed.

Below are the statements in the questionnaire and the number of persons indicating agreement:

	Total	LDP	Soc. Dem.	Soc. Party	Komei	Comm.	Okinawa
	81	15	6	36	13	10	1
1. I think that the China issue was taken care of through the apology of Premier Tanaka. This does not have any relationship to the Yasukuni Shrine Bill.	10	8	0	0	2	0	0
2. In reflection on the troubles which we caused China in the past, I think it is good for us to be extremely cautious on the Yasukuni Shrine Bill issue.	9	2	0	7	0	0	0
3. I think it is important either to spend time in revising the Yasukuni Shrine Bill or thinking in terms of building some kind of a memorial tower.	13	3	4	3	2	0	1
4. I think it is good at this time to scrap the Yasukuni Shrine Bill in order to show our intentions of abiding by a non-war pact with China and the building of a peaceful nation.	43	0	0	29	5	9	0
5. I am opposed to the present Yasukuni Shrine Bill	42	0	2	24	7	8	1
6. I believe we should pass the Yasukuni Shrine Bill at the next session of the Diet.	11	11	0	0	0	0	0

The Committee has been concerned over the inconsistencies between the statement on Japan-Chinese relations by Prime Minister Tanaka during his visit to China and the ruling party's attitude toward "Not abandoning the attempt to place the Yasukuni Shrine Bill before the coming ordinary session of the Diet for the fifth time."

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COMMITTEES CALLED TO WORK ON NCC STRUCTURE AND FINANCIAL PINCH

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Two important committees, whose work will determine the future of the Japan National Christian Council, were approved by the Executive Committee at its Nov. 9 meeting and are beginning to function. They are sub-committees of the Special Study Committee, headed by Takaaki Aikawa, established to look at the financial crisis NCC is facing and report to the next General Assembly of the NCC in March.

Responsible for reviewing the nature of the NCC in view of its past and present history is sub-committee A, with Rev. Yoshikazu Nakajima, General Secretary, Japan Baptist Convention, as chairman. Other members are Rev. Kazuyo Kishimoto, The United Church of Christ in Japan; Mrs. Michiko Okuda, chairman, NCC Women's Committee; Rev. Shozo Matsuda, pastor, Japan Baptist Convention, Rev. Yasuo Tazaki, priest, Japan Seikokai.

The question of possible restructuring of the present operation is the responsibility of sub-committee B, of which Mr. Tsunegoro Nara, Director of the Japan Christian Medical Association, is chairman. Members include Rev. In Ha Lee, General Secretary, Korean Christian Church in Japan; Mr. Takeshi Yoshikawa, Secretary, YMCA; Rev. Kazuhiko Kato, financial secretary, Japan Baptist Union; Mr. Koichi Oshima, president of Joshi Gakuin High School.

Among the problems to be taken up by the sub-committees is the possibility of a unified budget covering all NCC operations.

TRIENNIAL ASSEMBLY OF NCCJ MARCH 27-28

The Executive Committee of the National Christian Council, at its Nov. 9 meeting, set March 27-28 as the dates of the Triennial Assembly, which will be held in the Japan Christian Center building in Tokyo.

NCC SERVICE DIVISION APPEALS FOR CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR ABROAD

A goal of \$10,000 over a period of three years has been set by the NCC Service Division as Japan's contribution to a vocational school in Korea, a project of the WCC Commission on Interchurch Aid and Relief and World Service (CICARWS).

The school, in Pusan, Korea, is in need of class room space, equipment and cattle to carry on its training in a area of dire poverty in south Korea. The school was begun in 1960 by a Korean pastor.

JANUARY 18-25 TO BE WEEK OF PRAYERS FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

"Lord, teach us to pray" (Luke 11:1) is the worldwide theme for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, to be observed Jan. 18-25.

Originally initiated in 1908 by an American Episcopal priest, P. Watson, the Week-of-Prayer-for-Unity movement gained new energy when, after the Second Vatican Council, the World Council of Churches and the Vatican began issuing materials prepared by a joint committee, for use across the world during this Week.

In Japan the number of cities holding ecumenical meeting is increasing each year. Materials for local use have been prepared jointly by the NCC and the National Catholic Committee and can be ordered from the NCC. (A pamphlet giving the order of service with explanations is available for ¥20 a copy; posters calling attention to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity are free. Hymns to be used at this and other ecumenical gatherings are also available for ¥10 a copy.)



On Sat. Oct. 28, 70 participants in the 7th and last session of the 3rd Seminar for Volunteers, sponsored by *Caritas no Ie*, received certificates attesting to their attendance at the course. They brought to 200 the number of accredited volunteers who have completed their training.

When the fall Seminar had been announced in the newspaper, more than 130 people, mostly from Tokyo but some from as far away as Shizuoka, Maebashi and Sendai, had applied for admission but only 80 could be accepted.

*Caritas no Ie* (Caritas House) was founded in July 1969 to promote charitable activities in the Archdiocese of Tokyo. It is headed by Bishop Stephen Hamao, Auxiliary Bishop of Tokyo and directed by Father Mitsuru Miyoshi. Its work is divided between the 'Volunteer Bureau' and the 'Counselling Bureau.'

The 'Volunteer Bureau' trains volunteers, assesses their capabilities and limitations, determines needs and channels volunteers accordingly. At present volunteers are working in three areas.

Some help in the 'Counselling Bureau' under the direction and guidance of the one full-time and three part-time case-workers, who receive the clients. Other volunteers assist in social and welfare institutions--old folks' homes, children's homes, etc. in the Tokyo area. They give any kind of service for which they are called upon within the pre-determined limits of their capabilities and time.

People in the third group work in their own regions (*chiiki shakai*) scouting for needy persons who do not or cannot avail themselves of the services of *Caritas no Ie*. Many of these provide help to the elderly and to families in their homes.

The *katei-seikatsu sodan bu* (family-life counseling center) deals with problems related to the family: abnormal, handicapped or sick children, marital problems, unemployment problems, especially those met upon release from establishments for the handicapped, hospitals, etc.; problems met by the elderly; legal problems; medical problems, etc. From Oct. 1971 to Sept. 1972, this bureau handled 165 cases. The first contact is generally by phone, the client asking for a talk through a friend, priest, sister, etc. After meeting the client, assessing his need, the case worker refers him to a specialist capable of helping him solve his problems. In collaboration with several doctors, lawyers and other professional people, *Caritas no Ie* deals with varied problems. Last year 45 of the 165 cases concerned mentally retarded or handicapped children; the center has backed the founding of a play-therapy-clinic where three part-time specialists under the direction of Prof. Miyamoto care for the children.

Asked about the future, Miyoshi said he is hoping to expand the work of the third group of volunteers to include instigation of social action movements in their regions. He listed as possibilities the petitioning of public funds for the aged, exploration of ecological problems, etc.

ECUMENICAL FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS MARK THIRD ANNIVERSARY

The "Friendship Volunteers" celebrated their third anniversary on Nov. 5 with a party at the Koto-ku district office, where Rev. Tsutomu Suzuki spoke on the problems facing the people in the area. Suzuki is an Episcopalian minister and youth leader in Koto-ku who was recently elected a district councilman.

The Friendship Volunteers is an ecumenical group which came together Nov. 3 1969 "under the guidance of the Holy Spirit...who still remains the recognized founder and leader of the group." Helping in the development of the unique volunteer group were Fr. Joseph Spae, CICM, now in Geneva as Secretary General of SODEPAX and Sister Kathleen Stack, CSJ.

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ECUMENICAL FRIENDSHIP VOLUNTEERS MARK THIRD ANNIVERSARY

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\*\*\*\*\* The Friendship Volunteers staff, kept to a minimum so as to be able to move with the fast-changing times, consists of a coordinator, Sister Kathleen, an assistant coordinator, Sr. Katagi of the Sisters of Charity and Christian Instruction of Nevers, Miss Sumiko Seo, a United Church of Christ in Japan lay woman, and the Rev. Reiji Takahashi, United Church of Christ in Japan minister and social worker. Volunteers now number about 250, in addition to other contributors and prayer supporters.

The Volunteers are an independent group but have given considerable help to the building of Friendship House, where Takahashi will conduct a program of counselling and classes for laborers, key children and young mothers. Friendship House is being built and will be staffed ecumenically.

A CHURCH FOR ALL SEASONS. Tokyo Union Church 1872-1972, by Robert F. Hemphill  
Published by Tokyo Union Church, 1972. 124 pp. ¥600.

Appropriate to the centennial of Tokyo Union Church this year, Robert F. Hemphill has written a carefully documented and detailed account of the church's emergence, from a Sunday afternoon service for missionaries in the early years of Meiji to a congregation composed of members of the foreign business, diplomatic and intellectual community from many countries, of many denominational backgrounds.

The first two chapters, based on old records, interviews and quotations culled from many sources, fill in a picture of the first thirty years of the church's life, from 1872-1902, when it was located in the Tsukiji area of Tokyo. Throughout his book the author relates the changing church life to the changing Tokyo scene. Because the church's early membership was predominantly missionary, the book shows a side of missionary life not recorded in books on the history of Japanese Christianity or of Christianity in Japan.

Chapter III records the congregation's move from one location to another after it left Tsukiji in 1902, until it again acquired land for its own sanctuary on Omotesando in 1928.

Incidents in the experiences of the church in the 1930s reflected the changing atmosphere as relationships between Japan and the United States became increasingly tense, culminating in World War II. The book reports the steps that led to the decision to relinquish control of the church by foreign members for the duration of the war, and their return in 1945 to find a sanctuary badly wrecked by wartime bombing.

In a chapter titled "The Lazarus Church," Hemphill traces the efforts that resulted in the rebuilding of the sanctuary along the lines of the original architecture and the decision in 1952 to call a full-time pastor for the first time in the history of the church.

The final chapters are devoted to the recent history of the church and the ministries characteristic of each of the five pastors who have served as full-time pastors since 1952.

Among the people whose names appear in the book are many familiar beyond the circle of the church--W. K. Reischauer, Darley Downs, William Woodard. The author includes human interest notes on many personalities and has excerpted from official minutes both serious decisions and lighter memoranda.

Hemphill served as president of the Tokyo Union Church congregation and chairman of the West Tokyo Union Church steering committee, West Tokyo being an offspring of Tokyo Union Church. He resides in Mitaka and writes for various journals.



ANTI-YASUKUNI NATIONALIZATION COMMITTEE BUSY (cont'd from p.1) \* JCAN Nov. 24  
Related to the Yasukuni issue is the so-called "Machi no \* p. 5 (122)  
Yasukuni", the question of local celebrations related to \* \* \* \* \*  
Shrines: for example, in the Kinki area, the school excursion  
prescribed for the elementary school recently was a trip to the Ise Shrine;  
in Kurayoshi city, Tottori prefecture, the ground set aside for a new municipal  
parking facility was blessed by the performing of a special Shinto ceremony  
which is in direct violation of the separation of Church and State as prescribed  
by the Constitution. Due to the efforts of a religious opposition group, Kawa-  
saki city's attempt to celebrate a Memorial Day Service through a special reli-  
gious ceremony was defeated.

#### JAPAN SIDE AGREES TO NEW JAPAN-NORTH AMERICA SPAN

For several years mission board engineers have been trying to replace an old  
bridge built for one-way traffic between Japan and North America with a new span  
that would carry traffic in both directions.

At the Council of Cooperation full meeting in Tokyo Nov. 17-18, the Council  
members voted to approve the proposed Constitution for the Japan North America  
Commission for Mission, which is to be formally adopted at a constituting assembly  
to be held in New York Jan. 17-18. The new span, known as "J-NAC," will replace  
the Interboard Committee for Christian Work, a postwar committee organized to co-  
ordinate the efforts of churches in Canada and the United States working co-  
operatively with The United Church of Christ (Kyodan).

The Council voted to send three representatives and possibly a fourth to the  
inaugural meeting. While the United Church of Christ in Japan is the official  
member of the Commission, it was agreed that the three representatives to the  
New York-based body will be recommended by the Council and represent in fact the  
associations of schools and social work in the Council, as well as the Kyodan.

George Hanabusa, Acting General Secretary of the Kyodan, describes the new  
structure as a step in the direction of church-to-church relations from the  
church-mission board relationship that has existed heretofore, as well as  
preparation for the sending of missionaries to North America from Japan.

Dr. Charles Germany, Assistant General Secretary of the World Division of  
Board of Global Ministries of United Methodist Church attending the CoC meeting  
on behalf of the Interboard Committee/JNAC, said that JNAC demonstrates the in-  
tention of North American churches to involve their total churches in mission on  
a global basis. He pointed out provision for JNAC to include functional rep-  
resentation. The structure is also designed to be open to new members from  
either Japan or North America.

Japan CoC members raised the issue of Kyodan-social work=education cooperation  
within Japan and of the need to take up these matters quite apart from the JNAC  
structure.

#### SHIMAMURA ASSUMES POST OF ACTING MODERATOR

With the approval of his board of elders, Rev. Kikaku Shimamura assumed the  
position of Acting Moderator of The United Church of Christ in Japan, effective  
with the Standing Executive Committee meeting of Oct. 20. Shimamura was elected  
by the previous Executive Committee but withheld acceptance until his board  
could be consulted. (see JCAN Oct. 27 No. 420 p. 1 (106)).

#### TV Notes:

Christmas Candle Service on NET (JOEX-TV), Dec. 23 (Sat.) 24:15--24:41.  
Program planned jointly by AVACO and NET will feature choirs, orchestra,  
pipe organ, etc.

In the review of the Catonsville 9 in the last issue of JCAN (Nov. 10, p. 6 (117),  
line 7 should read: from a draft office at Catonsville, Md. instead of the  
Maryland State draft board offices.



*TO CLEAR WAY FOR DEC. 10 ELECTION, THE LOWER HOUSE WAS DISSOLVED*  
Nov. 13, after passing the supplemental budget for 1972 and holding a special cabinet meeting. The 70th extraordinary session of the Diet had been convened Oct. 27 with Prime Minister Tanaka speaking with pride about the good relationships established between China and Japan and his plan to change the Japanese archipelago. He emphasized that his politics is a politics of decision and fulfillment.

*A JAPANESE NATIONAL LIVING IN LOS ANGELES HIJACKED A JAPAN AIR LINES*  
flight en route from Haneda to Fukuoka. Tatsuji Nakaoka, 47, demanded a ransom of \$2 million and continuation of the flight to Cuba but was seized after eight tense hours when he was changing planes in Tokyo to continue the flight. All passengers were safe.

*KAKUMARU STUDENTS AT WASEDA LYNCHED A 20-YEAR-OLD SOPHOMORE,*  
Daizaburo Kawaguchi, who was found dead by a passerby early the morning of Nov. 9 near Tokyo University Hospital. Post-mortem examinations showed scores of bruises all over his body. It was later discovered that he had been lynched by the Kakumaru (revolutionary Marxists) student faction of Waseda University.

The Kakumaru faction told the press that Kawaguchi, who belonged to the rival Chukaku (middle core) faction, died from shock while undergoing self-criticism for spying on their action. It now appears that about 10 Kakumaru students were involved in the incident.

Since the incident, the general student body has taken up the matter of violence on the part of Kakumaru and is also pursuing with the students ways of combating radical students' violence on campus. The outcome of these deliberations, it is said, will have a profound effect on what happens at some 44 other universities throughout Japan. The Minister of Literature, Inaba expressed his strong opinion of the need for a new universities' supervision law.

*TWO FORMER JAPANESE ARMY SOLDIERS WERE DISCOVERED AND SHOT AT*  
on Lubang Island in the Philippines by patrols. One, Kinichi Kozuka, 51, from Hachioji, was killed; the other, Toshiro Onoda, 50, from Wakayama, was wounded in the leg and escaped into the jungle, where he still remains in hiding.

The Health and Welfare Ministry sent a mission to Lubang Island to search for Kozuka, who is known to have been hiding in the jungles for the 27 years since World War II ended, but the mission was not successful.

Philippine military authorities said orders have been given not to shoot in the hope that they will be able to capture the straggler, Onoda, alive. The mayor of Lubang Island is demanding compensation from the Japanese government for the people killed and the food taken by these two Japanese Army soldiers.

#### *REEVALUATION OF THE YEN*

At the budget meeting of the Upper House, Prime Minister Tanaka told the Councillors they would bear heavy responsibility for the state of the nation's economy if they are not able to avoid another re-evaluation of the yen.